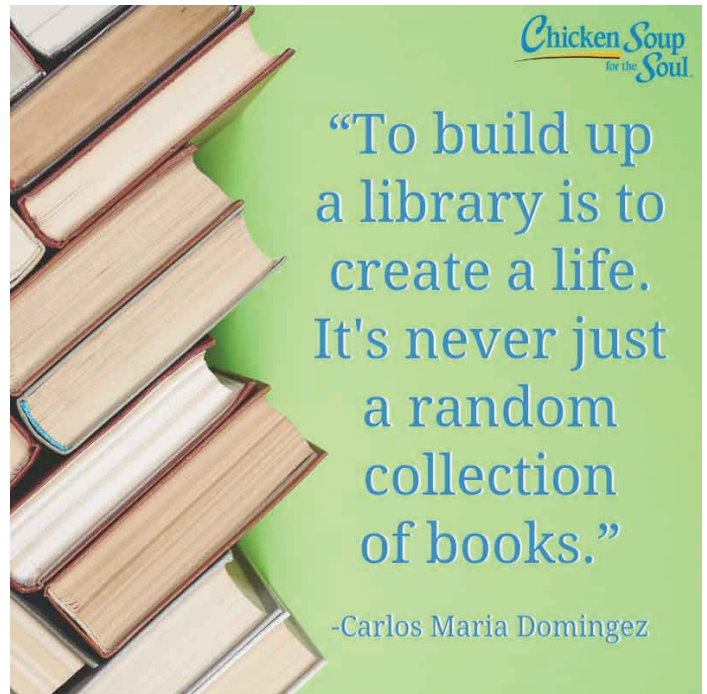


Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 1 of 39

- [1- Service Notice Mary Bertsch](#)
- [2- Dairy Queen donates to GT Robotics](#)
- [3- Erickson has Yard of the Week](#)
- [4- Junior Hippology took first at State 4-H Horse Show](#)
- [5- Senior Hippology took first at State 4-H Horse Show](#)
- [5- Senior Quiz Bowl Judging Team took second at State 4-H Horse Show](#)
- [6- It's a smelly job!](#)
- [7- The nets come down](#)
- [8- Tree is gone!](#)
- [9- Lots of Toads! and a salamander](#)
- [10- Welcome Back](#)
- [11- South Dakota Is 2019's 3rd Hardest-Working State in America – WalletHub Study](#)
- [12-Weekly Vikings Roundup](#)
- [13- NE Mental Health Ad](#)
- [14- Gospel Solutions to Social Issues](#)
- [15- Weather Pages](#)
- [18- Daily Devotional](#)
- [19- 2019 Groton Events](#)
- [20- News from the Associated Press](#)



Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Golf: Boys Varsity Meet vs Aberdeen Roncalli (Away) on Aug 26 at 10:00 AM
Aberdeen Roncalli High School
Type: nonconference Opponent: Aberdeen Roncalli
Comments: Moccasin Creek Country Club

Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs Redfield High School (Away) on Aug 29 at 6:00 PM
Redfield-Doland High School
Type: nonconference Opponent: Redfield High School
Comments: C and JV matches @ 6pm

No School on Aug 30
Groton Area Elementary School, Groton Area High School

Football: Boys Varsity Game vs Ellendale/Edgeley-Kulm (Away) on Aug 30 at 7:00 PM
Ellendale High School
Type: nonconference Opponent: Ellendale/Edgeley-Kulm

OPEN: **Recycling Trailer in Groton**
The recycling trailer is located at **10 East Railroad Ave.** It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

Service Notice Mary Bertsch

Memorial Services for Mary Maxine Ann (Hearnen) Bertsch, 90, will be 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, August 27th at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Father Tom Hartman will officiate. Burial will follow in St. John's Cemetery, Conde under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel.

Max passed away August 22, 2019 at Avantara Groton.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 2 of 39



Dairy Queen donates to GT Robotics

Dale Grenz, owner of the Groton Dairy Queen, is pictured above presenting the River Pardick with a check for \$500 for the Groton Robotics Club.

Jim Lane, who oversees the Groton Robotics Club, said that having a robot serve Blizzards has been an idea for three years. This year, one of the teams, the Geek Squad, did not qualify for state. "I wanted them to have some project and I thought the robot would be a good project for them. The robot served Blizzards upside down at the Groton Dairy Queen. It was a win-win situation for all parties involved. Grenz said he was happy to have the fundraiser opportunity.

Members of the Geek Squad that built the robot were Isaac Smith, Steven Paulson, Nick Morris and Lee Iverson. Nick Morris and Axel Warrington are pictured on the right.





Erickson has Yard of the Week

The Seth and Megan Erickson yard at 902 N. 3rd Street was chosen as the August 12th Yard of the Week by the members of the Groton Garden Club. Also pictured are their children, Max and Haley. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Junior Hippology took first at State 4-H Horse Show

The 4-H Junior Hippology Judging Team received first place at State Horse in Huron.

Team members are Alicia Davis, Mallory Miller, and Blake Pauli.

As individuals Mallory placed fourth and Alicia placed seventh. (Courtesy Photo)



Senior Hippology took first at State 4-H Horse Show

The 4-H Senior Hippology team got first place at State Horse in Huron
Teams members are

Dylan Krueger, Cassandra Townsend, Jazmine Hart Crissman, and Hanna Miller.

Cassandra also placed first in individuals. (Courtesy Photo)



Senior Quiz Bowl Judging Team took second at State 4-H Horse Show

The 4-H Senior Quiz Bowl Judging team got second place at State Horse in Huron
Team members are Gabi Siefkes, Jazmine Hart Crissman, Hanna Miller, and Dylan Krueger
As individuals Gabi got third, Hanna got sixth and Dylan got eighth. (Courtesy Photo)



It's a smelly job!

It's a . . . well, you can see what kind of a job this is! Branden Abeln is dumping the sewer lift station basket at the park last week. It requires the use of a bucket truck which Landon Johnson was operating, lifting the basket from the wet well and into the payloader bucket where it is emptied. It should be noted that there were a lot of "disposal" towels in the basket which then slows up the flow of sewage. Because of these "disposal" towels, the basket at the park lift station has to be emptied often.



The nets come down

The nets at the ball field have been taken down for the winter. In addition, the dugouts on Locke-Karst Field have also been removed as new ones will be installed. Dan Sunne is pictured here cutting cutting the zip ties that hold the net up. Sunne and Landon Johnson folded up the nets as they were taken down and put away.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 8 of 39



Tree is gone!

This eyesore of a dead tree at the Groton Football Field was taken down on Saturday.



Lots of Toads! and a salamander

The toads have been plentiful this year as they can be seen jumping all over. This bucket of toads was removed from the back-wash pit at the pool. They were safely removed and relocated to the edge of town near water where they will live happily ever after!

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 10 of 39



Welcome Back

A select group of business people were invited to the Groton Area Elementary School where they welcomed the students with high fives on the first day of school. (Photo by Tina Kosel)

South Dakota Is 2019's 3rd Hardest-Working State in America – WalletHub Study

With Americans working an average of almost 1,800 hours per year and the average worker using only 54% of their available vacation time, the personal-finance website WalletHub today released its report on 2019's Hardest-Working States in America as well as accompanying videos.

In order to determine where Americans work the hardest, WalletHub compared the 50 states across ten key metrics. The data set ranges from average workweek hours to share of workers with multiple jobs to annual volunteer hours per resident.

How Hard Does South Dakota Work? (1=Best, 25=Avg.)

6th – Avg. Workweek Hours

11th – Employment Rate

1st – Share of Workers with Multiple Jobs

25th – Annual Volunteer Hours per Resident

4th – Avg. Leisure Time Spent per Day

Americans are hard workers, putting in an average of 1,780 hours per year, according to the World Economic Forum. That's about 425 hours per year more than Germans work, but about 370 less than Mexicans do.

Even when given the chance to not work as hard, many Americans won't. In fact, the average American only uses 54% of their available vacation time. However, while it may seem as if workers are happily pursuing the American Dream, many individuals' reasons for working hard may not be so pleasant. Some fear that if they take time off they will look less dedicated to the job than other employees, risking a lay-off. Others worry about falling behind on their work or worry that the normal workflow will not be able to function without them.

It is possible to work hard without overdoing it, though. Hard work is key to success, and the people of some states understand that better than others. To determine where Americans work the hardest, WalletHub compared the 50 states across 10 key indicators. They range from average workweek hours to share of workers with multiple jobs to annual volunteer hours per resident.

Weekly Vikings Roundup By Jordan Wright

The third preseason game of the year is generally considered to be a dress rehearsal for the regular season. If that's true, the Vikings' first-team offense looks to be in rough shape. Luckily, quarterback Kyle Slotter and the rest of the Vikings' third-string offense were able to salvage the day, leading the Vikings to a 20-9 come from behind victory against the Arizona Cardinals. Head coach Mike Zimmer is now 20-4 in preseason games.

Kirk Cousins and the rest of the Vikings' starting offense – minus receiver Adam Thielen and right tackle Brian O'Neill – played the entire first half. Over those six drives the Vikings had a total of 135 yards, but 85 of those yards came on a Dalvin Cook run in the first quarter. Take out that run and the Vikings averaged just 2.2 yards per play. That's not good.

For whatever reason, Kirk Cousins couldn't complete throws to his receivers. He only completed 3 of 13 passes for 35 yards and an abysmal quarterback rating of 39.6 (Ironically, a 39.6 QB rating is what a quarterback would have if he threw the ball into the ground every single play). Cousins also took two sacks, which were the first sacks the Vikings had given up this preseason. There were a few drops and miscommunication by the receivers, but for the most part Cousins struggled with his accuracy. It was a troubling sight, and it's clear the team needs to get the offense fixed before the regular season starts.

The Vikings did have a good day on the ground, however, obviously highlighted by Cook's 85-yard scamper. Zimmer has been adamant about improving the running game this whole offseason, and it was a brilliant move bringing in former head coach Gary Kubiak, who has installed a zone-blocking, one-cut system. The system is perfect for Dalvin Cook, because it allows him to use his vision to choose the best route to run. On his big run, the play was supposed to go to the left, but Cook saw an opening, cut to the right, and turned on the jets to get to the endzone. As a team, the Vikings ran for 190 yards on 29 carries.

Defensively, the Vikings were without safety Harrison Smith and Linval Joseph. The rest of the starters played most of the first half, although Zimmer was liberal with his substitutions to get more guys playing time. The defense started strong, forcing a three-and-out by the Cardinals on their first drive. The rest of the first half, as has been the theme for most of this preseason, was the Vikings' defense bending but not breaking. The defense gave up 198 total yards in the half, but the Cardinals were held out of the endzone and had to settle for three field goals. All-in-all the Vikings' starting defense was average, which is a pretty big letdown considering they have the talent to be in the above average to elite range.

The player of the game on offense was Kyle Slotter. When he entered the game in the fourth quarter, The Vikings were down 9-7. He only had two drives, but he took advantage of his opportunity, completing 6/7 passes for 102 yards and getting the Vikings into the endzone twice. Slotter showed once again why many Vikings fans are hoping he can be the number two guy behind Cousins this season.

On defense, Devante Downs was the player of the game. The linebackers is fighting for a roster spot, and Downs made a good step towards competing that goal on Saturday. He finished second on the team with six tackles, also adding a sack (the only Vikings' sack that game), a tackle for a loss and a QB hit.

Looking ahead, the Vikings will finish up the preseason on Thursday when they travel to New York to take on the Buffalo Bills. The Vikings have been lucky by avoiding any major injuries this preseason, so expect most of the starters to sit this game out. This will be the final chance for some to make an impression and earn a roster spot, so expect to see every player on that field playing like there's no tomorrow. Skol!

Have any questions or comments? Reach out to me on Twitter (@JordanWrightNFL)

We need our farmers.

We need them physically strong. We need them mentally strong.

Northeastern Mental Health Center is now offering counseling services for farmers and their families-**at no cost.**

With the current state of the industry, we understand that farm families can feel overwhelmed in times of stress, instability, and uncertainty.

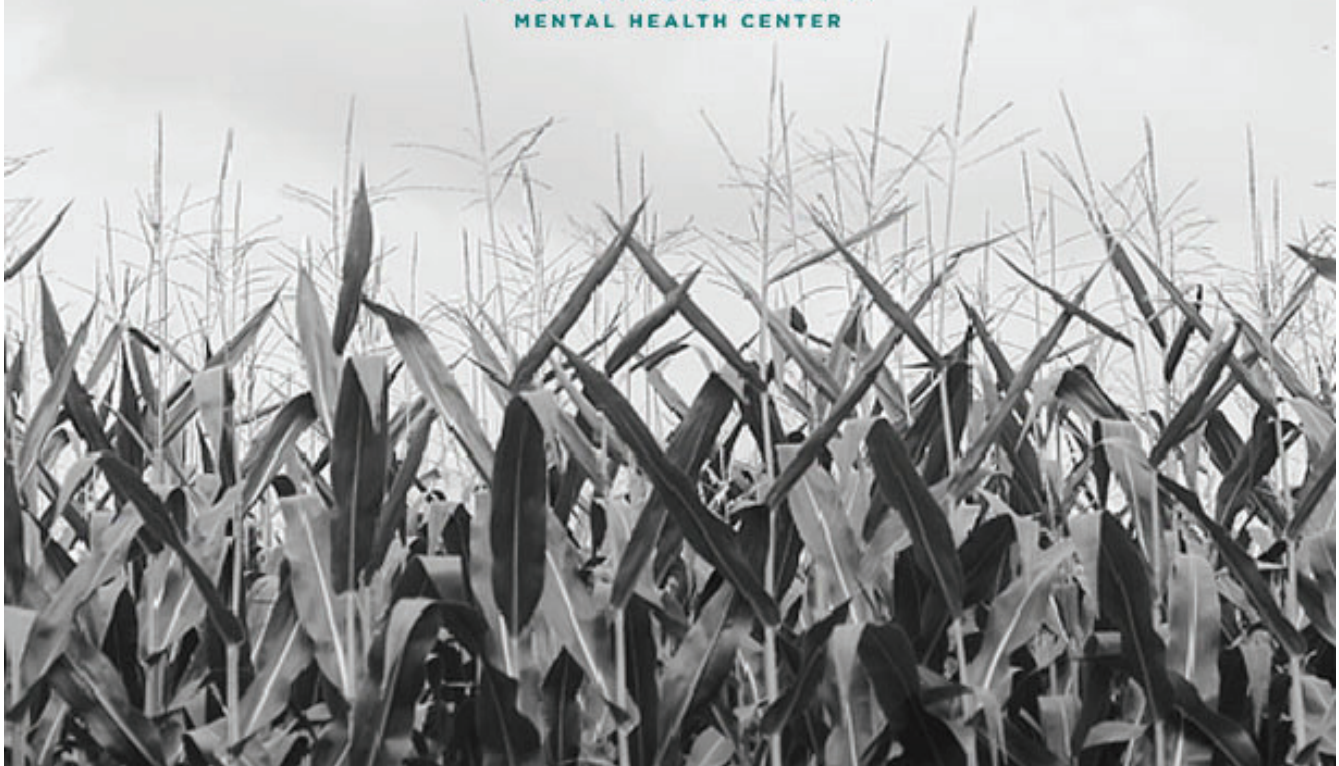
We're here to help.

Call 605-225-1010 for more information.

Northeastern Mental Health Center services the counties of Brown, Campbell, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Marshall, McPherson, Potter, Spink and Walworth.



Northeastern
MENTAL HEALTH CENTER





*Adults and Students . . . come
learn what social issues are
involving our youth
in our community.*

Solutions **to** **Social Issues**

SPONSORED BY LOCAL CHURCHES

Youth Groups Welcome ~ Large Groups please RSVP 605/377-0709

Seminars are:

September 11 at United Methodist Church:

Drugs & Alcohol

October 9 at Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church:

Sex Trafficking and Date Violence

November 6 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church:

Suicide and Bullying

Light Meal at 5:45 p.m. ~ Seminar begins at 6:30 p.m.

Broton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 15 of 39

Today

Tonight

Tuesday

Tuesday
Night

Wednesday



Mostly Cloudy
then Slight
Chance
T-storms and
Breezy

High: 74 °F



Slight Chance
T-storms then
Mostly Clear

Low: 56 °F



Mostly Sunny
and Breezy

High: 69 °F



Mostly Cloudy
and Breezy
then Partly
Cloudy

Low: 52 °F



Sunny

High: 73 °F

Breezy and Cool start to the Week

Today

71 to 76°

Isolated Showers & Thunderstorms
Breezy Afternoon
Northwest Winds 15 to 25 mph
with higher gusts



Tuesday

67 to 73°

Breezy
Northwest Winds 25 to 30 mph
with higher gusts



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

www.weather.gov/abr

graphic created
8/26/2019 5:29 AM

Published on: 08/26/2019 at 1:32AM

Expect isolated showers and thunderstorms to linger through the afternoon hours. Increasing winds out the northwest will be the main theme through Tuesday. Cooler air will sink in, with temperatures topping out in the upper 60s to mid 70s. Breezy conditions will develop this afternoon, with winds 25 to 30 mph with higher gusts developing Tuesday.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 16 of 39

Today in Weather History

August 26, 1983: Heavy rainfall up to four and a half inches fell in the town of Mahto, Corson County, flooding basements. Hail, up to three inches in diameter, caused significant damage to roofs and broke numerous windows.

August 26, 1998: Massive rainfall of 3 to over 6 inches fell across far eastern Corson, most of Campbell and Walworth counties during the evening hours of the 26th. The heavy rain caused flooding on many roads along with some highways through the night and into the morning hours on the 27th. Near Selby, high winds, heavy rain, and some hail caused damage to sunflowers and moved a barn three feet off the foundation. In Selby, wind-driven rain pushed water through some ceilings and into basements. An old barn near Glenham was also blown down by the strong winds. Some rainfall amounts include 3.50 inches at Herried, 3.80 inches at Java, 4.20 inches at Selby, 4.50 inches 3N of Selby and just southeast of Mclaughlin, 5 inches at Glenham, 5.75 inches 8N of Mobridge, and 6.35 inches 1.5 miles southeast of Glenham.

1864: A train running from Cincinnati to Chicago was derailed by a tornado in Dearborn County, Indiana, or 75 miles southeast of Indianapolis. Two passenger cars were lifted from the tracks and dropped in a ravine which injured 30 people.

1883 - Krakatoa Volcano exploded in the East Indies. The explosion was heard more than 2500 miles away, and every barograph around the world recorded the passage of the air wave, up to seven times. Giant waves, 125 feet high and traveling 300 mph, devastated everything in their path, hurling ashore coral blocks weighing up to 900 tons, and killing more than 36,000 persons. Volcanic ash was carried around the globe in thirteen days producing blue and green suns in the tropics, and then vivid red sunsets in higher latitudes. The temperature of the earth was lowered one degree for the next two years, finally recovering to normal by 1888. (David Ludlum)

1992: Hurricane Andrew made a second landfall near Burns Point, LA as a Category 3 hurricane. Morgan City, LA recorded sustained winds of 92 mph with a peak gust of 108 mph. Hammond, LA was deluged with 11.92 inches of rain. As Andrew moved inland and weakened, it spawned 47 tornadoes from this date through the 28th from the South to the Mid-Atlantic States.

1949 - A hurricane made landfall at Delray Beach. Winds reached 153 mph at the Jupiter Lighthouse before the anemometer failed. The hurricane caused 45 million dollars damage to crops, and also caught the Georgia and South Carolina coast resulting in another two million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1965 - Late night severe thunderstorms associated with an unusually strong late summer cold front produced 100 mph winds straight line winds in the Chicago area and northwest Indiana. In Lake County IND, high winds derailed a train near Crown Point, and left a canoe suspended among telephone lines. Two nights later the temperature at Midway Airport in Chicago dipped to 43 degrees, establishing a record for the month of August. (Storm Data) (Hugh Crowther)

1976: A weak tornado touched down briefly in the Hockley Hills near Kiana, AK, about 29 miles north of the Arctic Circle. This tornado is the most northerly report of a tornado on record. Kiana is 545 miles northwest of Anchorage, Alaska.

1987 - Showers and thunderstorms drenched northern Illinois during the morning and afternoon hours pushing August rainfall totals for Chicago, Moline and Peoria to new all-time highs for any month of the year. By the end of August, Chicago had received 17.10 inches of rain, which easily surpassed the previous record of 14.17 inches established in September 1961. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A dozen cities in Texas, Colorado and California reported record high temperatures for the date, including readings of 100 degrees at Pueblo CO, 106 degrees at Wichita Falls TX, and 109 degrees at Redding CA. Afternoon thunderstorms in Utah deluged the town of Beaver with more than an inch of rain in twenty minutes. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Anchorage, AK, was soaked with a steady rain, and the 24 hour total of 4.12 inches smashed their previous 24 hour precipitation total of 2.10 inches. It also pushed their rainfall total for the month past their previous record for August. (The National Weather Summary)

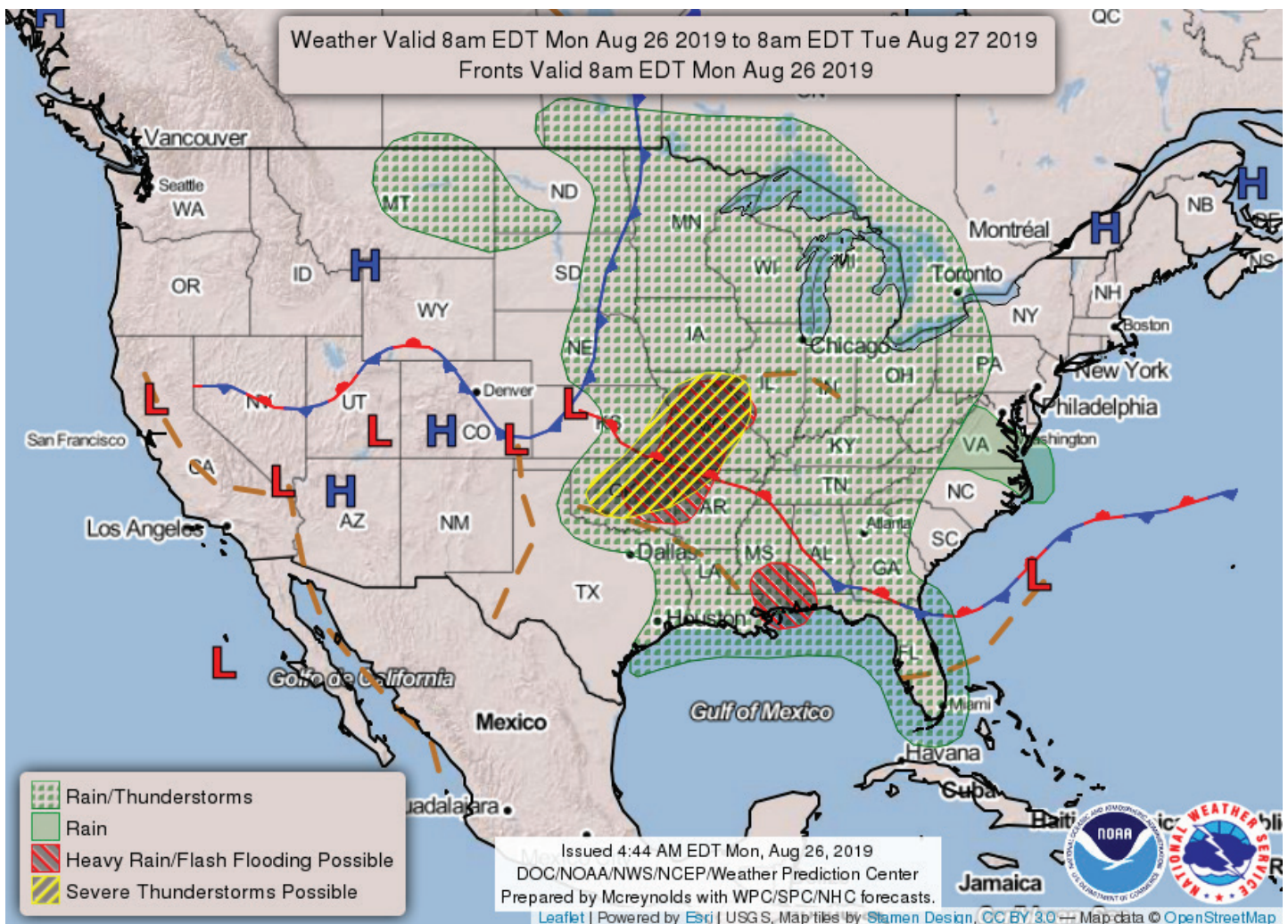
Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 17 of 39

Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 73 °F at 1:21 PM
Low Temp: 64 °F at 8:07 AM
Wind: 25 mph at 11:20 AM
Day Rain: 0.03

Record High: 104° in 1991
Record Low: 34° in 1914
Average High: 80°F
Average Low: 54°F
Average Precip in Aug.: 1.96
Precip to date in Aug.: 3.01
Average Precip to date: 15.82
Precip Year to Date: 19.60
Sunset Tonight: 8:23 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:49 a.m.



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 18 of 39



FAITHFUL MEANS CONSISTENT

Imagine what it would be like to go to bed at night and wonder if the sun would be there to greet us in the morning. Or, to fear that the sun would stand still and scorch the earth because the universe lost its way. Or, to see a drought begin and worry that the rain will never come again.

We live in an orderly, predictable universe. Its the way God created and planned it to be. It is, simply stated, a picture of a God who is faithful, dependable, reliable and trustworthy. Who He was yesterday He will be today and when the sun sets this evening, it will not go into hiding. It will rise again tomorrow because of the enduring faithfulness of a sovereign God.

Faithfulness is important because it gives us the assurance of stability and structure. It creates trust and the possibility of planning. Though we may not desire some of the contents that come with predictability, at least we can prepare for them.

Gods covenant with the children of Israel gave them the assurance of His faithfulness. Other gods were created by men but our God is the One who created man. He promised to guide, guard and grant us mercy, grace and salvation because of His great love for His creation.

Wisdom speaks of this God, to be sure. But, to be faithful to Him in all things and pass this wisdom on to children as mothers and mentors is something our God ordained to be an important priority in Christian homes. She speaks with Gods wisdom and faithful instruction is on her tongue. There is little doubt in Gods mind: Mothers matter!

Prayer: Father, we pray for Your strength and dignity to fill all who are called by You to be mothers and mentors. Lead them by Your Spirit to be God-centered. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 31:26 She speaks with Gods wisdom and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 19 of 39

2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 08/07/2019 Storybook Land Theatre Performace at Granary Rural Cultural Center
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/12/2019 St. John's Lutheran Luncheon
- 09/20/2019 Presbyterian Luncheon
- 09/28/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/26/2020 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 04/04/2020 Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/02/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 06/8-10/2020 St. John's VBS
- 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
Groton Hosting State B American Legion Baseball Tournament
- 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
- 09/12/2020 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest

News from the Associated Press

AmeriCorps lends a helping hand

By DAN CRISLER Watertown Public Opinion

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — With a high number of children attending Watertown's Boys and Girls Club nearly every day throughout the summer, staffers are getting by — and thriving — with a little help from their friends in AmeriCorps.

Throughout the past month, a team of eight AmeriCorps members, hailing from all over the United States, has been helping and guiding the hundreds of children who pass through the club's doors each day. Whether it helping the kids color, play cards or participate in gym activities, the tasks are a little off the beaten path for the AmeriCorps team, which generally goes around the country helping communities with infrastructure and environmental projects the Watertown Public Opinion reported.

"It's been a new experience. It's been very wild and crazy. But the kids are funny. It's been very nice and cool," Madison Bartlett, who hails from Hawaii, said. "It's been a very good experience overall."

Fellow AmeriCorps member, Katie Batenhorst from Omaha, Nebraska, agreed.

"It's been a nice change," she said. "There are a lot of opportunities to get involved in the community."

It's also been a far different experience for this AmeriCorps team than it was for the previous one that appeared in Watertown last summer. At that time, the club was finishing up its renovation and expansion and the AmeriCorps team was helping put on the final touches to that project.

Although working with children is generally not a primary focus of AmeriCorps' work, the team members have proven quite adept at interacting and playing with the club members. That was evident on a recent Wednesday morning when several young children competed for the attention of AmeriCorps member and northeast Ohio native Taylor Walters.

"The kids have absolutely loved having them in the facility," Club Executive Director Liz Christianson said. "There are lots of smiles and games being played. That's what it's all about: To bring in different people and have them share their experiences."

And experience each member has. With a large portion of the group hailing from metro and/or densely populated areas, each member has been able to enjoy what Watertown has to offer beyond the club's walls. The team has partaking in the weekly Thursday Night Live and last month's Cookin' on Kampeska festivities. They've also volunteered at other community organizations including The Salvation Army.

Many members also expressed fondness for Lake Kampeska.

"This has been one of my favorite towns serving in so far," Michael Brown, who hails from Coventry, Conn., said. "I love the music scene on Thursday nights. It's easy to walk around. The lake is really pretty. It's a cool place to hang out."

For every AmeriCorps member, Watertown is just the latest in a variety of experiences each of them sought when they applied months ago.

With each member generally in their early 20s, their experiences have taken them to places such as the forests of Maine to Flint, Mich. to flooded areas of Nebraska.

"This has been a nice change of pace," Denver native Tyus Gallegos-Jones said.

Walters expressed similar sentiments, saying of AmeriCorps, "I think it's an extremely beneficial program. You get exposed to a lot of different things and people. You have a lot of connections in different places. At the end, (AmeriCorps) will either help you pay off some of your student loans or give you a grant to go back to school. I think it's a really beneficial for young adults."

With the AmeriCorps scheduled to remain in Watertown until Sept. 6, they'll go back to their more traditional duties this month in touching up the club before it opened its doors again to the children to coincide with the start of school on Aug. 22.

Why Sioux Falls parents have fewer day care options

By JOE SNEVE Argus Leader

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Brittany Lightner needed a new day care provider.

The in-home family day care the Sioux Falls mother began using just weeks after she welcomed her now 3-year-old son into the world is closing, and she wanted to find an intimate, close-knit family day care like the one she went to as a child.

"I had that perfect day care in my brain (from my own experience as a child) that would be hard to top," she said. "And no center would be able to do that."

But Lightner did choose a larger day care center, in part because she liked the structured preschool program and more flexible hours, but she also chose the larger center because as an increasing number of in-home day cares close, those centers are becoming the more prominent option for Sioux Falls parents.

The number of family-run, in-home day care providers in the city dropped 42% between 2009 and 2018, an Argus Leader investigation found.

During that same time, the city saw a 26% increase in the number of licensed day care centers, and city officials say that's largely bridging the gap in terms of the overall number of child care slots available.

But parents today have, overall, fewer child care options than they had a decade ago, especially if they want to keep their child in an in-home setting.

"What we don't know is are day care providers choosing to open facilities and work in facilities rather than work at home, or are parents choosing facilities over in-home day cares," said Alicia Collura, assistant director of the Sioux Falls Health Department. "We don't have a level of detail to know what's driving that trend. We just know that we're seeing less in-home day cares and more day care facilities."

Collura couldn't provide the total number of slots available in Sioux Falls.

Statewide, though, officials during a recent briefing of the City Council by the city's health department said the number of in-home day care slots — the number of children being cared by child care providers — dropped by approximately 2,800 between 2014 and 2018. But the number of slots at day care facilities grew by 2,500 during the same period.

In-home child care providers, day care center directors and parents who spoke with the Argus Leader for this article attributed the trend of more centers and fewer in-home day cares to three potential factors: an increasingly regulatory climate, parent perceptions about security and safety at varying facilities, and economic factors.

"I think it's a little bit of everything," said LeAnn Werner, who's operated LeAnn's Family Daycare out of her home for the last 19 years.

Werner said she's noticed the decline in the number of in-home facilities in Sioux Falls in recent years, and chalked it up, in part, to the extra regulatory hurdles that have been placed on obtaining and maintaining a license from both the city and the state in the last two decades.

In order to get licensed in the city of Sioux Falls, a provider has to submit to background checks, regular home visits by city and state health inspectors and take several certification classes.

That's long been the case for day care centers in Sioux Falls and across the state. But the state had historically provided the oversight for those facilities, with the city having no involvement in regulating providers that take care of 13 or more children until the last two decades.

Prior to the early 2000s, in-home day cares in South Dakota were mostly unregulated, with licensing happening on a voluntary basis with the Department of Social Services. But in 2002 the city of Sioux Falls established its own licensing system in order to ensure the safety of children in the care of people who aren't their parents or legal guardians.

"There wasn't anything mandatory for the in-home at the time so that's why the city stepped into that role," Sioux Falls Public Health Manager LuAnn Ford said. "We want the kids to be safe and do what we can to provide at least some minimal requirements for folks taking care of them."

The Department of Social Services still has no mandatory licensing requirement for day care providers who care for 12 or fewer children. But the city offers an incentive on its license fees if in-home providers

are also registered with the state.

But that also means a provider is subject to two levels of regulatory oversight. And those regulations have increased overtime. In 2012, the city began requiring providers to self disclose incidents in the home, subject all parts of the day care home to inspection and liability insurance.

As a result of federal legislation in 2014, all licensed providers had to create emergency preparedness and response plans including:

- Creating an evacuation plan
- Have a plan to relocate children should the main home or center become unsafe
- Lock-down procedures
- Communication plans with families

Those added barriers to entries and hurdles for existing providers could be both keeping people from starting in-home day cares and driving people out of the business, said Lisa Carson, director of Apple Tree East who used to run her own in-home day care.

"I would say that's one of the reasons they're losing in-homes," Carson said. "Those old gals that have been doing it for how many years, they might decide to get a job out of the home."

Carson also noted that the number of in-home day cares in Sioux Falls peaked in 2008 and 2009 during the recession. But as the economy improved and there was more money to be made outside of the home, some providers found other job opportunities.

The added security elements that come with a day care facility like camera surveillance systems and key-card entry systems also appeal to parents, she said.

Werner agreed that added regulations, including nutritional guidelines coming from Washington, D.C., have made child care a more difficult job, and more expensive for some providers.

"People go into day care thinking it's easy and you're going to make all this money," she said. "But I think it's that people might be getting overwhelmed, and I think that's why day cares are closing."

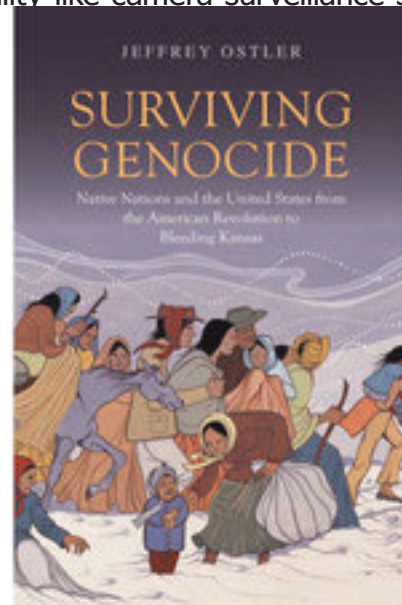
Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Book tries to show how US democracy hurt Native Americans

By **RUSSELL CONTRERAS** Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A new book by a noted historian attempts to show how expanding American democracy hurt Native Americans in the early days of the nation and how tribes viewed the young United States as an entity seeking to erase them from existence.

University of Oregon history professor Jeffrey Ostler's just-released "Surviving Genocide: Native Nations and the United States from the American



This photo provided by the Yale University Press shows the book cover of "Surviving Genocide: Native Nations and the United States from the American Revolution and Bleeding Kansas," authored by University of Oregon history professor Jeffrey Ostler and released in June 2019. The new book by the noted historian attempts to show how expanding American democracy hurt Native Americans in the early days of the nation and how tribes viewed the young United States as an entity seeking to erase them from existence. (Courtesy of Yale University Press via AP)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 23 of 39

Revolution and Bleeding Kansas” argues that the emergence of American democracy depended on the taking of Native lands.

Leaders of the fledgling nation also felt that removing Native Americans from the ancestral land — by any means necessary — was key to allowing an expanding and poorer white population to move west, the historian writes.

Ostler said he based his book on 30 years of research by other scholars in the field of Native American studies, but wanted to do a large survey of how tribes saw the looming U.S. threat.

“If I ask my students, ‘Why did we have an American Revolution?’ They’ll say ‘Taxation without representation,’” Ostler said. “But a very significant issue among the leaders of the American Revolution was that the British were blocking the colonists’ access to western lands.”

Future President Thomas Jefferson would even write from France that the U.S. needed a constant supply of land to grow while ignoring the people who already lived there, Ostler said.

Ostler’s book is the first of two volumes on Native American history.

The book comes as scholars and writers are challenging narratives around American history and how it hurt people of color. These efforts are drawing criticism from some conservative columnists.

Most recently, The New York Times Magazine published a series of essays called The 1619 Project earlier this month around the 400th anniversary marking the beginning of American slavery. The writers argue that African Americans were the true “perfecters of this democracy” in the U.S. by continually fighting for the nation’s ideals of equality and against the legacy of slavery.

Columbia University history professor Karl Jacoby called Ostler’s book an exciting work in Native American history. Jacoby said it would counter the romantic story portrayed in such recent books like David McCullough’s “The Pioneers: The Heroic Story of the Settlers Who Brought the American Ideal West.”

Historians, scholars and activists took to social media accused McCullough of romanticizing white settlement and downplaying the pain inflicted on Native Americans.

“Ostler’s book is very different and gives a much more complex and accurate story about what happened,” Jacoby said.

Ostler said he is working on finishing his second volume of “Surviving Genocide” which will cover the how Native Americans responded to attempts to remove and kill them in New Mexico, Arizona and the Pacific Northwest.

Russell Contreras reported from Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is a member of The Associated Press’ race and ethnicity team. Follow him on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/russcontreras>

Woman dies in Rapid City motorcycle-truck crash

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Police in Rapid City are investigating the death of motorcyclist in a crash with a truck.

It happened around 1:30 p.m. Saturday on Fifth Street near Rapid City Regional Hospital.

The woman on the motorcyclist died of her injuries. Her name was not immediately released.

2 South Dakota prison inmates recaptured

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Two South Dakota prison inmates accused of walking away from their community service jobs and stealing a pickup truck are back behind bars.

The Department of Corrections says Rosebud Tribal Police caught Tahnasha Stricker and Christy First In Trouble in Rosebud on Saturday. It says the women were driving a pickup that matched the description of the truck taken when they left their jobsite in Pierre without permission on Friday.

Rosebud is about 80 miles from Pierre.

The women were each serving time for drug convictions in multiple counties.

3 adults killed, 2 children hurt in crash near Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say three adults were killed and two children were injured in a crash just west of Sioux Falls.

The Department of Public Safety says a car was eastbound on South Dakota Highway 42 just before 1 p.m. Saturday when it crossed the center line and collided with a westbound pickup. The truck caught fire.

Both men in the pickup — the 57-year-old driver and 44-year-old passenger — died of their injuries. So did the 39-year-old woman who was driving the car. Two boys in her car, ages 10 and 5, suffered serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

The people in the car all wore seatbelts. Authorities weren't immediately sure about the men in the truck. Names were not immediately released pending notification of relatives.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol is investigating.

In the face of death, the party of a lifetime

By GENE JOHNSON Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The day he picked to die, Robert Fuller had the party of a lifetime.

In the morning, he dressed in a blue Hawaiian shirt and married his partner while sitting on a couch in their senior housing apartment. He then took the elevator down three floors to the building's common room, decorated with balloons and flowers.

With an elaborately carved walking stick, he shuffled around to greet dozens of well-wishers and friends from across the decades, fellow church parishioners and social-work volunteers. The crowd spilled into a sunny courtyard on a beautiful spring day.

A gospel choir sang. A violinist and soprano performed "Ave Maria." A Seattle poet recited an original piece imagining Fuller as a tree, with birds perched on his thoughts.

And when the time came, "Uncle Bob" banged his walking stick on the ceiling to command attention.

"I'll be leaving you in a little over an hour," he announced.

A sob burst. Fuller turned his head sympathetically toward its source.

"I'm so ready to go," he said. "I'm tired."

Later that afternoon, Fuller plunged two syringes filled with a light brown liquid — a fatal drug combination mixed with Kahlua, his favorite alcohol — into a feeding tube in his abdomen. He was one of about 1,200 people who have used Washington's Death with Dignity Act to end their lives in the decade since it became law.

As such laws grow more popular — they have taken or will take effect in Hawaii, New Jersey and Maine this year, making it nine states where "aid in dying" is allowed — more people who are suffering and



In this May 10, 2019, photo, Robert Fuller lies unconscious after plunging prescribed drugs to end his life into his feeding tube as his husband, Reese Baxter, upper left, and friends lay hands on him, in Seattle. Earlier in the day, Fuller had the party of a lifetime. He's one of about 1,200 people who have used Washington's Death with Dignity Act to end their lives in the decade since it became law.

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 25 of 39

terminally ill have the option of hastening their death. Those who do cite a variety of reasons — fear of losing their autonomy or dignity, becoming a burden to loved ones, becoming unable to enjoy life — but they are united in a desire to take control of their own ends.

The Associated Press documented one man's story in the days surrounding his death, spending time with him and those around him. In an interview the day before he died, Fuller said he wanted to demonstrate for people around the country how such laws work.

For him, the decision to end his life at 75 was, if not easy, never in doubt.

A LONG RELATIONSHIP WITH DEATH

Death did not frighten Bob Fuller. It had been with him since he was young.

He grew up in Hooksett, New Hampshire, the second of four children. His father was a furniture maker, his mother a homemaker. He described their relationship as loveless and unhappy, but he was close to his ailing grandmothers and would frequently sit with them.

When he was 8, he said, his father's mother, severely depressed, drowned herself in the Merrimack River after leaving her glasses and slippers on the shore. He recalled seeing her body in the water, a trauma that began his long, matter-of-fact relationship with death.

He called it his "default setting": "If life gets painful, you go to the Merrimack River."

Fuller's friends described him as playful, wise, witty and vibrant, a wonderful singer and the type of person who collected friends everywhere. He sponsored people in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction after quitting drinking in 1983. In retirement he ran a voucher program — now named for him — through the LGBTQ support organization Peer Seattle that provided music and theater tickets to those who couldn't afford them.

As a former nurse, he was like an unofficial assistant manager at his building, helping residents change bandages or picking them up when they fell in their kitchens.

But his old default setting persisted through much of his life, a sort of undercurrent to the way he lived "out loud," as he put it.

He tried to kill himself in 1975, he said, when he was drinking too much and despondent after his marriage ended; he had revealed to his wife he was gay. Fuller had moved to Seattle for nursing school, and he was working as a psychiatric nurse at Harborview Medical Center when he swiped handfuls of narcotics, went to a nearby park, swallowed them and lay down to die.

He called for help when it started raining, he said. He didn't want to die cold and wet.

In the mid-1980s, Fuller helped care for friends suffering from AIDS and administered a fatal dose of medication to one at the end of his fight, he said. But his own sexual behavior was so risky it verged on suicidal. He contracted AIDS, then lived long enough to benefit from the AIDS drug mixture when it was developed in the mid-1990s.

"I think I wanted to get AIDS," he said. "All my friends were dying."

For critics, that sort of fatalism is a key problem with aid-in-dying laws. Some AIDS patients who chose to end their lives might have lived long enough to benefit from the AIDS drug mixture as Fuller did, said Wesley J. Smith, an author and prominent critic of the laws.

But beyond that, to allow people to hasten their deaths represents an abandonment, a signal to the terminally ill that their lives are not worth living, he said.

"We should be very concerned that we are normalizing suicide in our society, especially at the very time during which, practically out of the other side of our mouth, we are saying suicide is an epidemic," Smith said.

Whether such deaths do constitute suicide is a semantic debate. In Washington and other states with aid-in-dying laws, coroners are forbidden from categorizing the deaths as suicides; instead, they list natural causes. Opponents, including the American Medical Association, maintain that "assisted suicide" is more accurate.

'WHY SHOULD I SUFFER?'

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 26 of 39

Fuller had long thought that if he were ever to become terminally ill, he would want to control his death. That notion was reinforced two years ago, when a woman in his building used Washington's law, he said. She explained the requirements for him, including that two doctors must certify you have less than six months to live, that you must be competent, and that you must request the fatal drugs twice verbally and once in writing, witnessed by two people.

Last summer he went to the doctor with a sore throat. It turned out to be an aggressive cancer at the base of his tongue. He began a round of chemo but abandoned it, saying it was killing his soul. Instead, early this year, he picked a date — May 10 — and began planning.

"Why should I suffer?" he said. "I'm totally at peace with this."

In the ensuing months he put his affairs in order. He went up the Space Needle and took a road trip down the Pacific Coast Highway with his partner and caretaker of the past few years, Reese Baxter.

The cancer was closing his throat, making it difficult to eat, but he had the flan from the Mexican restaurant around the corner one last time.

On Facebook he described his pain, his falling weight and his final visits with old friends.

Fuller began returning more often to the Catholic church he had long attended. His spiritual views were hardly orthodox — he considered himself a shaman, and described his impending death as a state of "perpetual meditation" — but Seattle's St. Therese Parish was known for accommodating a range of beliefs. Fuller was beloved there, and he craved the community. He had sung in the gospel choir and read scriptures from the lectern during services, sometimes delivering insightful or funny remarks off the cuff, said Kent Stevenson, the choir's director.

Stevenson credited the "tenacity and clarity" of Fuller's choice.

"It was hard to even cry because he was so forthcoming and so sober about it," Stevenson said. "He was just so outrageously unique and such a character, this was completely in keeping with who Bob was."

The Roman Catholic Church opposes aid-in-dying laws, citing the sanctity of life. But Fuller's decision was widely known and accepted among the parishioners. At the service where he received his last communion on May 5, the Rev. Quentin Dupont brought over a group of white-clad children who were receiving their first communion.

They raised their arms and blessed him.

THE END

As he hugged friends and sang along at his party, Fuller appeared serene, betraying no sign of reconsideration. He also kept his sense of humor, greeting a reporter by saying: "I'm dying to read your story."

"You can find me in God's eyes. You can find me in beautiful music," he told the crowd. "You can find me in terrible, terrible farts."

He invited those who wished to be with him for his death to come upstairs. Friends packed into his bedroom. He changed into satin, navy blue pajamas and lay down in his bed.

"It's hard to be here, but I wouldn't miss it," said Yvonne Kilcup, of Tacoma, whom Fuller began sponsoring in recovery 24 years ago. "He gave me a good solid kick in the butt. Now I'm going to hold his feet as he passes."

In the kitchen, two volunteers with the nonprofit End of Life Washington mixed the drugs and Kahlua in a glass measuring cup. They said they considered themselves to be like midwives, helping usher people out of the world instead of into it.

"You know if you do this, if you put this in your system, you'll go to sleep and you won't wake up?" one, Stephanie Murray, told him as she delivered the syringes.

"I do," Fuller answered.

Fuller plunged the syringes.

After a few moments of tense quiet, he led his friends in singing, "I'm so glad we had this time together," the sign-off from the old Carol Burnett television show.

His eyes closed for longer and longer periods.

"I'm still here," he said.
And then, he wasn't.

The Latest: Trump misses climate change meeting

BIARRITZ, France (AP) — The Latest on President Donald Trump at the Group of Seven summit. (all times local):

1:45 p.m.

President Donald Trump has missed a discussion on climate with other world leaders at the Group of Seven summit in France.

Trump was scheduled to attend Monday's session on climate, bio-diversity and oceans, but his chair was empty during a portion of the meeting reporters were allowed to witness.

French President Emmanuel Macron says that while Trump didn't attend, his aides were there.

The president started the morning behind schedule. His meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel was delayed about two hours.

He then met with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where he was asked about attending the climate session.

He said it would be his next stop and that he wants clean air and water.

Trump is a climate change skeptic who once had claimed it's a hoax that was invented by the Chinese.

1:30 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he thinks Pakistan and India will be able to work out a resolution over the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir on their own without his help.

In July, India rejected Trump's offer to mediate and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi again told reporters at the Group of Seven summit in France that Kashmir is a bilateral issue. India has long refused outside attempts to resolve the conflict while Pakistan has sought international help.

Trump said Monday that he's available to help mediate, but Modi told him that he has the situation "under control."

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir. India accuses Pakistan of arming insurgents who have been fighting since 1989 for Kashmir's independence from India or its merger with Pakistan. Islamabad denies the charge. About 70,000 people have been killed in the conflict.

11:55 a.m.

President Donald Trump says there's been no resolution on the fate of scores of Islamic State group fighters in U.S. custody.

Trump says he's raising the issue as he meets with leaders attending the Group of Seven summit in France. He commented during a one-on-one meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.



President Donald Trump and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, left, participate in a bilateral meeting at the G-7 summit in Biarritz, France, Monday, Aug. 26, 2019. (AP

Photo/Andrew Harnik)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 28 of 39

The president says it's unfair for the U.S. to pay to keep these fighters. He says many of them came from Europe — including Germany — and he wants Europe to take them back.

Merkel says her country has already taken in many immigrant families but says the European Union is committed to solving the issue.

Trump also says he hopes not to have to impose tariffs on imports of European autos and auto parts as he has threatened.

11:45 a.m.

President Donald Trump says his private golf resort near Miami is the likely venue for next year's Group of Seven summit. He says no decision has been made, but claims no other venue under consideration matches what his resort — Trump National Doral — can offer.

This year's G-7 summit is ending Monday in France and the U.S. is hosting the 2020 gathering of the seven nations.

Trump says the property, which is just minutes from the Miami airport, has a lot of acreage and properties that would allow delegations from each G-7 country to have its own building.

9:45 a.m.

President Donald Trump says he wasn't surprised when French President Emmanuel Macron invited Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif to Biarritz in a bid to open talks meant on lowering tensions.

Trump says he did not want to get into when Macron talked to him about Zarif. He says: "He asked me. I don't consider that disrespectful at all, especially when he asked me for approval."

For several months, Macron has assumed a lead role in trying to save the 2015 nuclear accord, which has been unraveling since Trump pulled the U.S. out of the agreement.

Trump had curtly told reporters he had "no comment" on Zarif's presence. Officials said the White House was not aware in advance of the invitation to Zarif.

Trump's comments come Monday as he meets with world leaders at the Group of Seven summit in France.

9:30 a.m.

President Donald Trump says serious negotiations with China will begin after the U.S. received two "very good calls" from Beijing.

Trump says "we are going to start talking very seriously." He says the Chinese want to make a deal and he thinks one will finally be reached.

Trump says he'll say more about China later Monday.

The president commented as he met on the sidelines of the Group of Seven world leader summit taking place in Biarritz, France.

Trump last week hiked tariffs on China after China taxed some U.S. imports in retaliation for a previous round of imports levied by Trump.

He says the Chinese now "mean business."

Trump declined to say whether he has been speaking directly with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Stocks turn higher as Trump claims China trade talks back on

By YURI KAGEYAMA AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Stock markets turned higher Monday after U.S. President Donald Trump claimed China was willing to reopen talks on the trade war that has been raging between the two countries and has wilted global economic growth.

Uncertainty remained high, however, about the next developments in the trade dispute, which has repeatedly seen the sides attempt to negotiate before ending in acrimony and more tariffs and trade penalties.

After Asian shares mostly fell on concerns about an escalation Friday in the dispute, markets in Europe

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 29 of 39

and U.S. futures perked up after Trump said that his trade negotiators had received two "very good calls" from China on Sunday. China's foreign ministry replied, however, that it didn't know what Trump was talking about.

France's CAC 40 was up 0.6% to 5,360, while Germany's DAX rose 0.5% to 11,665. Markets were closed in Britain for a national holiday. U.S. shares were set to recover, with Dow futures up 0.6% and S&P 500 futures up nearly 0.5%.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged more than 600 points on Friday and the S&P 500 suffered its fourth straight weekly loss after Trump responded angrily on Twitter following China's announcement of new tariffs on \$75 billion in U.S. goods. In one of his tweets he "hereby ordered" U.S. companies with operations in China to consider moving them to other countries — including the U.S.

Trump also later announced that the U.S. would increase existing tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese goods to 30% from 25%, and that new tariffs on another \$300 billion of imports would be 15% instead of 10%.

Stephen Innes, managing partner at Valour Markets in Singapore, compared the difficulty of assessing the volatile market situation to reading tea leaves.

"Nobody understands where the president is coming from," he said, adding that the best thing Trump can do for market stability is to "keep quiet."

"The problem that we're faced right now is that we are making a lot of assumptions ahead of the economic realities," he said.

The market is now dominated by fears of a portending U.S. recession, although the American economy is actually holding up, and much of the U.S. economy is made up of consumption, Innes said. If interest rates come down, he added, consumer spending is likely to go up, working as a buffer for the economy.

"What the market's really waiting for is for (the U.S. Federal Reserve) to drop interest rates," Innes said. "Right now, we are still sitting on that uncertainty."

Some analysts think the Fed will lower interest rates again this year. Fed Chair Jerome Powell indicated last week that the central bank was prepared to cut interest rates but gave no clear signal on when or by how much, while suggesting that uncertainty over Trump's trade wars have complicated the central bank's ability to set interest rate policy.

A quarter-point rate cut reduction in September is considered all but certain. Some think the Fed will cut rates again in December.

Meanwhile, China allowed its currency, the yuan, to fall further on Monday. That effectively helps its exporters, negating some of the effects of higher U.S. tariffs.

The yuan declined to 7.1468 to the dollar, a relatively modest change from Friday's low point of 7.0927 but its weakest rate since January 2008. The yuan has lost 6.5% from this year's high on Feb. 28. Chinese leaders have promised to avoid "competitive devaluation" to hold down export prices in the face of



A currency trader watches monitors at the foreign exchange dealing room of the KEB Hana Bank headquarters in Seoul, South Korea, Monday, Aug. 26, 2019. Asian shares tumbled Monday after the latest escalation in the U.S.-China trade war renewed uncertainties about global economies, as well as questions over what U.S. President Donald Trump might say next. (AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 30 of 39

Trump's tariff hikes.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 started plummeting as soon as trading began and finished at 20,261.04, down 2.2%. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slipped 1.3% to 6,440.10. South Korea's Kospi lost 1.6% to 1,916.31. Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped 1.9% to 25,680.33, while the Shanghai Composite was down 1.2% to 2,863.57.

Economists say that the unpredictability of the trade dispute is at least as damaging as the tariffs themselves, affecting the decisions of central banks and companies as they plan investments.

Zhu Huani, analyst at Mizuho Bank in Singapore, said that what he called Trump's "tariff tantrum" was setting off "the sense that tariffs could continue to rise," with the "the unpredictability of timing and extent of these trade actions risk accentuating the paralysis of business decisions and big-ticket business spending."

"No matter which way you cut the cake, it is nearly impossible to construct a bullish, or even neutral scenario for equity markets today," said Jeffrey Halley, senior market analyst at Oanda.

The price of benchmark crude gained 54 cents to \$54.71 a barrel. It sank \$1.18, or 2.1%, to settle at \$54.17 a barrel Friday, as traders worried that the latest escalation in the trade battle could sap global demand for energy. Brent crude oil, the international standard, rose 42 cents to \$59.76 a barrel.

The dollar fell to 105.88 Japanese yen from 106.65 yen on Friday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1118 from \$1.1057.

Police defend warning shot as Hong Kong divide widens

By KEN MORITSUGU Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong police on Monday defended pulling out their guns and firing a warning shot during anti-government protests over the weekend, and lawmakers on each side of the city's political divide said the other side bears responsibility for the violence.

Assistant Police Commissioner Mak Chin-ho said one officer fired into the air and six held up their revolvers after protesters charged them repeatedly with metal poles, long sticks and road signs on Sunday night.

"Their use of force was indeed necessary and reasonable," he told a news conference at police headquarters.

Pro-government lawmakers condemned the acts of protesters who blocked streets, threw gasoline bombs and assaulted police officers.

"You can say a lot of different opinions to the government," said Starry Lee, chairwoman of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong. "But violence is different. If we can accept violence, our city will be ruined."

Pro-democracy members of the Legislative Council countered that the government and the police need to take responsibility, the former for introducing the extradition legislation that sparked the protests and



A policeman's gun was dropped on the floor, left, after clashed with demonstrators on a street during a protest in Hong Kong on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019. Lawmakers on each side of Hong Kong's political divide say the other side bears responsibility after violence during anti-government protests over the weekend. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 31 of 39

the latter for what they say is selective enforcement of the law targeting government opponents.

Kwok Ka-ki, a member of the Civic Party, blamed Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam. He called her creation of a platform for dialogue a delay tactic rather than an attempt to resolve the conflict.

"She is the one who should shoulder all the responsibility, and now she is trying to get away from all the responsibility and shifting the focus to the so-called platform," he said.

At a government news conference, Matthew Cheung, the chief secretary for administration, said the protesters' actions show a total disregard for law and order and called them unacceptable. On Saturday, protesters damaged several "smart" lampposts installed by the city, cutting at least one down with a circular electric saw.

"We need to have dialogue instead of confrontation," Cheung said, according to a simultaneous translation of his remarks. "We need to have peace instead of violence."

A hard-line contingent of protesters took over streets on Saturday and Sunday following peaceful pro-democracy marches. They argue that peaceful protests are not enough to get the government to respond to their demands. Police used tear gas to clear the streets and arrested more than 80 people.

The movement has five demands including democratic elections and an independent inquiry into what it alleges is police violence in breaking up demonstrations.

The protests started in early June with the now-suspended extradition bill, which would have allowed suspects to be sent to mainland China to face trial, and has expanded to encompass a general concern that China is chipping away at the rights of Hong Kong residents.

Hong Kong's leader is chosen by a 1,200-member committee dominated by supporters of the central government in Beijing. About half of the legislature is elected by the public, while the other half represents various professions and groups such as lawyers and accountants.

Mak, the police official, called the actions of the hard-line protesters reckless and a grave threat to public safety. He said 21 officers were injured on Sunday.

"The police have zero tolerance for violent acts," Mak said. He asked citizens to ask themselves, "Is this the Hong Kong you would like to see?"

Associated Press videojournalists Johnson Lai and Alice Fung contributed to this report.

US exports to lobster-loving China go off cliff amid tariffs

By PATRICK WHITTLE Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — U.S. lobster exports to China have fallen off a cliff this year as new retaliatory tariffs shift the seafood business farther north.

China, a huge and growing customer for lobster, placed heavy tariffs on U.S. lobsters — and many other food products — in July 2018 amid rising trade hostilities between the Chinese and the Trump administration.

Meanwhile, business is booming in Canada, where cargo planes are coming to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Moncton, New Brunswick, to handle a growing bump in exports. Canadian fishermen catch the same species of lobster as American lobstermen, who are based mostly in Maine.

The loss of business has brought layoffs to some Maine businesses, such as The Lobster Co., of Arundel, where owner Stephanie Nadeau has laid off half the 14 people she once had working in wholesale.

"They picked winners, and they picked losers, and they picked me a loser," Nadeau said. "There is no market that's going to replace China."

America has exported less than 2.2 million pounds (1 million kilograms) of lobster to China this year through June, according to data from the U.S. federal government. The country exported nearly 12 million pounds during that same period last year. That's a more than 80% drop.

In Canada, exports to China through June were already approaching 33 million pounds, which is nearly as much as all of 2018.

The value of Canada's exports was nearing \$200 million in U.S. dollars through June and was almost sure to outstrip last year's total of more than \$223 million. America's exports through June were valued

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 32 of 39

at less than \$19 million, more than \$70 million behind where they were through June 2018.

Lobster prices paid by American consumers have remained fairly steady during the trade dispute, and there remain many buyers for U.S. lobster. But the loss of China as an overseas market is happening at the end of a decade in which the U.S. seafood industry has experienced exponential growth in lobster exports to the country. The U.S. exported about 800,000 pounds of lobster in China in 2010 and more than 20 times that last year.

The American lobster industry is looking to open up new domestic and international markets to make up for the loss of China, said Marianne LaCroix, who directs the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative. Maine lobsterman Brian Rapp will attend a trade show in Hong Kong and a trade mission to Dubai in September to promote U.S. lobster, she said.

"China is so large that you have to look at a number of new markets to replace that business," LaCroix said.

In Canada, the boost to business has helped the industry but also led to uncertainty about its future, said Geoff Irvine, executive director of the Lobster Council of Canada.

The American and Canadian lobster industries overlap, with some businesses operating on both sides of the border, and it's more beneficial to the lobster industry at large for trade to go on unimpeded, he said.

"Whenever there's any kind of uncertainty, it makes people worry," Irvine said. "Everybody would like to see the entire lobster industry open and free."



In this Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019, photo lobsterman Bill Matthews tosses back an undersized lobster while fishing off Cape Porpoise in Kennebunkport, Maine. America's lobster exports to China have dropped sharply this year as new retaliatory tariffs shift seafood business north to Canada. (AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty)

Trump claims serious trade negotiations with China to begin

By ZEKE MILLER and DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

BIARRITZ, France (AP) — President Donald Trump, under pressure to scale back a U.S.-China trade war partly blamed for a global economic slowdown, claimed Monday that the two sides will begin serious negotiations soon.

Trump said his trade negotiators had received two "very good calls" from China Sunday. A spokesman for China's foreign ministry said he didn't know what Trump was talking about.

Trump's optimistic comments about China came hours after he sent mixed messages on the tariff war. He at first seemed to express regret over escalating the trade dispute, but the White House later said Trump's only regret was that he didn't impose even higher tariffs on China.

On Monday, Trump claimed the Sunday evening conversations were a sign China is serious about making a deal.

"I think we're going to have a deal, because now we're dealing on proper terms. They understand and we understand," Trump said as he met with Egypt's president on the sidelines of the Group of Seven

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 33 of 39

summit in France.

"This is the first time I've seen them where they really want to make a deal. And I think that's a very positive step," Trump added.

Trump declined to identify those involved in the most recent conversation or say whether he is in direct contact with President Xi Jinping. Trump added Monday that the two sides will begin "talking very seriously," saying that after the calls he believes the Chinese "mean business."

A Chinese delegation long had been expected to travel to Washington in September to continue talks and that remained the case after Trump's escalation following China's tariff announcement Friday.

It was unclear if Trump was referring to the previously scheduled talks next month or some other conversations.

The Chinese seemed to not know about any calls.

"I have not heard of the weekend calls mentioned by the United States," said Geng Shuang a spokesman for China's foreign ministry.

Trump's optimistic comments about China came as he commented for the first time on the surprise appearance at the G-7 summit by Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, and as the international gathering put Trump's differences with his counterparts on display.

World leaders had encouraged Trump all weekend to deescalate the conflict with China, he clashed with French President Emmanuel Macron over new France's digital services tax, and he broke with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in not forcefully condemning North Korea's recent ballistic missile launches.

But Trump on Monday claimed the reports of disagreements were overblown, starting with the Zarif visit.

Uncharacteristically silent Sunday while Zarif was in France, Trump insisted that Macron had asked his "approval" before asking Zarif to attend, as he looks to lower tensions in the Persian Gulf. And Trump rejected the assertion by some allies that the invitation to Zarif was somehow an insult.

"I spoke to President Macron yesterday and I knew everything he was doing and I approved whatever he was doing and I thought it was fine," Trump said of the Zarif talks. He said he thought it was too soon for he and Zarif to meet but wouldn't say whether any Americans had been in contact with the Iranian. The Iranian government had said they would not meet with any Americans during the eight-hour visit to France.

Trump said there could soon be time for a meeting between himself and Iranian officials, but refused to lay out clear steps forward or say if he'd be willing to accede to a plan put forward by Macron to offer Iran some relief from crushing petroleum sanctions in exchange for restarting nuclear talks. He said of the Iran talks, "It's all very new. They're under a lot of financial stress."

After a breakdown in talks this spring, Trump and Xi agreed in June to resume negotiations. But talks in Shanghai in July ended with no indication of progress. Negotiators talked by phone this month and are due to meet again in Washington next month.

Trump last week hiked tariffs on China after China taxed some U.S. imports in retaliation for a previous round of imports levied by Trump.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged more than 600 points Friday as the latest escalation in the trade war rattled investors. The broad sell-off sent the S&P 500 to its fourth straight weekly loss.

Trump also "ordered" U.S. corporations to find alternatives to doing business in China and threatened to declare a national emergency to enforce it. Trump softened the threat Sunday, saying he would only consider it if China again responded with raising tariffs on American goods.

On Sunday, Trump seemed to express regret over the escalating trade war, which some analysts blame for signs of weakness in the U.S. and global economy.

But the White House later said Trump only regretted that he didn't impose even higher tariffs on China.'

Associated Press writer Joe McDonald in Beijing contributed to this report.

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Young Afghan women barely remember Taliban but fear a return

By CARA ANNA Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Two yellow burqas are on display at a television station in Kabul, bright versions of the blue ghostlike garments some women in the capital still wear. For the young women at Zan TV they are relics, a reminder of a Taliban-ruled past that few of them can recall.

Their generation is the most vulnerable, and perhaps the most defiant, as the United States and the Taliban near a deal on ending America's longest war. Worried about losing what they've gained over nearly two decades, they are demanding a voice in high-level talks to determine their country's future.

"For me, I will not submit myself to the Taliban," said Shogofa Sadiqi, Zan TV's 25-year-old chief director, who believes the insurgent group will have less impact as it faces a new generation. She described the burqas as a symbol of the challenges women have faced over the years and practically shuddered when asked if she'd worn one herself. Never, ever. "I don't like it," she said, switching to English to make her feelings clear.

About two-thirds of Afghanistan's population is 25 or younger, with little or no memory of life before 2001. That's when a U.S.-led invasion pushed out the Taliban, who had sheltered al-Qaida and its leader Osama bin Laden before the 9/11 attacks and imposed a harsh form of Islamic law that kept women out of public view.

Now this young generation watches as U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad negotiates a troop withdrawal in return for Taliban assurances on countering terror groups. With talks focusing on security, little else is assured. Few know what the Taliban are thinking or what they will do as international forces leave and the world's attention moves on.

The insurgent group has recovered from its defeat and now controls roughly half of Afghanistan. With its position stronger than ever it has rejected negotiations with the Afghan government, though intra-Afghan talks on political and security issues are meant to follow a U.S.-Taliban deal. The Taliban could join the government.

As for women's rights in this still highly conservative country, the U.S. has said it will be left for Afghans to decide.

For Karishma Naz, a 23-year-old music presenter on Zan TV — "Woman TV" in the Dari language — the uncertainty is unsettling. She doubts the Taliban have changed their beliefs and imagines two options if the "dark days" return: she will stay at home by force or leave the country, an option unavailable for many young Afghan women.



In this Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019 photo, Shogofa Sadiqi, right, chief director of Zan TV speaks with a staff member at her office in Kabul, Afghanistan. Young women in Afghanistan are the most vulnerable population, and perhaps the most defiant, as the United States and the Taliban near a deal on ending America's longest war. Worried about losing what they've gained over nearly two decades, they are demanding a voice in high-level talks to determine their country's future. About two-thirds of Afghanistan's population is 25 or younger, with little or no memory of the Taliban's harsh form of Islamic law prior to the 2001 U.S.-led invasion. (AP Photo/Rafiq Maqbool)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 35 of 39

"Why are there no women to represent and defend us?" Naz asked, worried about losing the career in front of the camera that she'd wished for as a child. But as the seconds counted down to her live broadcast she adjusted her pink headscarf, straightened up and put on a smile.

Her generation has seen Afghan women become street artists, CEOs, a member of the Supreme Court and the first female winner of the televised talent show "Afghan Star." Young Afghan women have formed an all-female orchestra and competed in the Olympics. A woman opened the country's first yoga studio, another leads the state-run film production company and a third held a Kabul street concert with her rock band earlier this year.

They have equal rights under the post-2001 constitution, but reality often lags behind. Women still have to stand up to conservative relatives, community members and judgmental strangers. A bill criminalizing violence against women still hasn't been passed.

Little has changed in areas controlled by the Taliban, who have said girls can be educated and even work in politics and the judiciary, though not as president or chief justice.

"This research could not identify a single girls' secondary school open in an area of heavy Taliban influence or control," said a report last year by the Overseas Development Institute, which interviewed more than 160 Taliban fighters, officials and civilians in seven of the country's 34 provinces.

Maryam Sama, a 27-year-old member of Parliament, said much still needs to be done even in areas under government control. About half of all girls in Afghanistan still don't attend school, more than half are married before age 19 and domestic violence is widespread despite billions of dollars in humanitarian aid since 2001.

"But if we turn into an Islamic emirate we will have no voice," Sama said, referring to the Taliban's name for its self-styled government. "If anything happens in Afghanistan, if anything goes wrong, all the responsibility goes back to the United States and the people at this (negotiating) table."

One of the few women who spoke with Taliban leaders during their meetings with representatives of Afghan society this year in Moscow and Qatar is former lawmaker Fawzia Koofi, who pushed past her uncomfortable memories of the Taliban's rule to attend in the interest of peace.

Taliban representatives told her they regretted many things that had occurred and said women were forced to stay at home because of the insecurity at the time. She didn't believe it.

The Taliban still don't support women's rights according to international principles, she said. A Taliban statement at the Moscow talks said the group is committed to women's rights within the framework of Islam "and then Afghan tradition." It also criticized immorality and indecency "under the name of women's rights."

"I think the new generation of people in Afghanistan will not be able to accept this kind of approach," Koofi said.

She told the Taliban that a girl born in the final months of their rule would now be 18. "She knows how to use all the technology and the opportunities of the world, and if you try to oppress her or deprive her of her rights, definitely she will use her abilities to inform the world," she recalled during an interview.

Then she excused herself for a meeting, one that was a reminder of how fragile Afghan women's gains can be.

A young former TV presenter was shot dead on her way to work in Kabul earlier this year. Her parents accused her husband, and they told Koofi they've faced attacks from people angry that he, the man, was blamed. Could she help?

Associated Press writer Tameem Akhgar in Kabul, Afghanistan, contributed to this report.

Officials say California deputy lied about being shot

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A Los Angeles County deputy lied when he said he was shot in the shoulder while standing in a sheriff's station parking lot last week and will face a criminal investigation, authorities said.

"The reported sniper assault was fabricated" by Deputy Angel Reinosa, Assistant Sheriff Robin Limon said at a news conference late Saturday.

Reinosa, 21, made a frantic radio call Wednesday claiming he'd been shot by someone in a nearby building as he walked to his car outside the Lancaster station, prompting a huge police response. Deputies set up a perimeter and SWAT officers went door-to-door inside a sprawling building complex to search for the shooter.

At the time, investigators believed Reinosa's bulletproof vest saved his life but that a bullet grazed him. A department statement the next day said a single round hit the top of Reinosa's shoulder, damaging his uniform shirt but failing to penetrate his flesh.

But no bullets were recovered from the scene and detectives saw "no visible injuries," Capt. Kent Wegener said Saturday night.

Much of the young deputy's statement "was self-serving and didn't make a whole lot of sense," Wegener said. "There were many things that didn't add up."

Reinosa eventually admitted making up the story and using a knife to cut the two holes in his shirt, Wegener said.

Reinosa has been relieved of his duties and could face charges for filing a false report about a crime, officials said. He didn't explain his motive for the fabrication, Wegener said.

Reinosa had been with the LA County Sheriff's Department for a year and joined the Lancaster station in May for patrol training.

Lancaster Mayor R. Rex Parris told the Los Angeles Times on Sunday he had been informed by sheriff's officials that Reinosa had been struggling in his first year in the field — a probationary training period that all deputies must complete before becoming full-fledged deputies. Sheriff's officials wouldn't immediately confirm that account.

"He was not advancing through the training program at an adequate pace," Parris told the newspaper. "There had been a lot of attention on him."

Parris declined to elaborate further on Reinosa's performance but said the deputy was scheduled to be transferred from the Lancaster station and speculated that he had been unhappy about the pending move.

The mayor visited Reinosa in the hospital and then gave a press conference on the incident Wednesday night detailing the ongoing investigation.

Parris said he was "embarrassed" after learning Saturday evening that the whole ordeal was a hoax.



This Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019 file image taken from video provided by KABC-TV shows the outside of a Los Angeles County sheriff's station in Lancaster, Calif. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department says a deputy who claimed he was shot in a station parking lot earlier this week was lying. Assistant Sheriff Robin Limon said at a news conference late Saturday that Wednesday's "reported sniper assault was fabricated" by Angel Reinosa. The 21-year-old deputy told authorities he used a knife to damage his uniform shirt. He's been relieved of duties and will face a criminal investigation. He didn't explain his motive. (KABC-TV via AP, File)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 37 of 39

"At the same time, I'm grateful we don't have a sniper running around," the mayor told the newspaper. "And I'm really proud of how the Sheriff's Department handled it. There was no attempt to cover it up."

Deputies searched through the night for the sniper inside the block-long, four-story structure with many windows that overlook the sheriff's facility in downtown Lancaster, a desert city of about 160,000 people north of Los Angeles.

Tactical teams worked their way through the building, evacuating some people and having others shelter in place, officials said.

Deputies cleared other nearby buildings, including a library. Authorities urged residents to avoid the neighborhood.

Metrolink train service was halted in the area.

The search was called off Thursday and authorities said the shooter was still at large.

"Our deputies responded to a cry for help and did exactly what they have been trained to do to protect our civilian staff, residents and community," said a department statement Sunday. "Our community and other first responder partners worked side by side with us to move quickly, effectively and efficiently. There is no shame in that."

The statement concluded: "The actions of one individual are not indicative of who Lancaster Sheriff's Station Deputies are."

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press undefined

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. 'WE ARE GOING TO START TALKING VERY SERIOUSLY'

President Donald Trump says serious negotiations with China will begin after the U.S. received two "very good calls" from Beijing.

2. WHY ASIAN SHARES TUMBLED

The latest escalation in the U.S.-China trade war renewed uncertainties about global economies, as well as questions over what President Donald Trump might say next.

3. WHO'S TO BLAME FOR HONG KONG PROTESTS

Lawmakers on each side of the political divide say the other side bears responsibility after violence during anti-government protests over the weekend. Protesters are demanding democratic elections and an independent inquiry into alleged police violence in breaking up demonstrations.

4. BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO AMAZON BLAZES DRAWS IRE

The far-right populist leader initially dismissed the hundreds of blazes and then questioned whether activist



President of the European Council Donald Tusk, clockwise from center front, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, U.S. President Donald Trump, President of France Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson take part in a working session with G7 leaders on the second day of the G-7 summit in Biarritz, France Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019.

(Sean Kilpatrick/The Canadian Press via AP)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 38 of 39

groups might have started the fires in an effort to damage the credibility of his government, which has called for looser environmental regulations in the world's largest rainforest to spur development.

5. WHY YOUNG AFGHAN WOMEN ARE VULNERABLE AND DEFIANT

As the United States and the Taliban near a deal on ending America's longest war, the women are worried about losing what they've gained over nearly two decades and are demanding a voice in high-level talks to determine their country's future.

6. TERMINALLY ILL MAN MAKES DECISION TO END HIS LIFE

The Associated Press documented Robert Fuller's decision to legally take his own life after battling throat cancer. He was one of about 1,200 people who have used Washington's Death with Dignity Act to end their lives in the decade since it became law.

7. HOW CHINA RESPONDED TO TRUMP'S LATEST THREATS IN TRADE WAR

Leaders allowed the yuan to sink to an 11-year low against the dollar after the U.S. president threatened to block American companies from doing business with the country.

8. WHO IS DUE BACK IN COURT ON SEX ASSAULT CHARGES

Movie mogul Harvey Weinstein is facing a new indictment that hasn't been made public, but prosecutors say it would open the door for an actress to testify against him. He's expected to plead not guilty.

9. COMEDIAN HOSTS CONCERT TO HONOR OHIO SHOOTING VICTIMS

Comedian Dave Chappelle held the star-studded "Gem City Shine" Sunday in Dayton's Oregon District to raise both spirits as well as money for the victims and survivors of the Aug. 4 shooting.

10. COLTS NAME NEW QUARTERBACK AFTER LUCK'S SURPRISE RETIREMENT

General manager Chris Ballard taps Jacoby Brissett who has starting experience and served as under-study to both Andrew Luck and Tom Brady, after New England drafted him in the third round in 2016.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Aug. 26, the 238th day of 2019. There are 127 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing American women's right to vote, was certified in effect by Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby.

On this date:

In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa began cataclysmic eruptions, leading to a massive explosion the following day.

In 1910, Thomas Edison demonstrated for reporters an improved version of his Kinetophone, a device for showing a movie with synchronized sound.

In 1944, French Gen. Charles de Gaulle braved the threat of German snipers as he led a victory march in Paris, which had just been liberated by the Allies from Nazi occupation.

In 1957, the Soviet Union announced it had successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile.

In 1958, Alaskans went to the polls to overwhelmingly vote in favor of statehood.

In 1968, the Democratic National Convention opened in Chicago; the four-day event that resulted in the nomination of Hubert H. Humphrey for president was marked by a bloody police crackdown on antiwar protesters in the streets.

In 1971, New Jersey Gov. William T. Cahill announced that the New York Giants football team had agreed to leave Yankee Stadium for a new sports complex to be built in East Rutherford.

In 1972, the summer Olympics games opened in Munich, West Germany.

In 1974, Charles Lindbergh — the first man to fly solo, non-stop across the Atlantic — died at his home in Hawaii at age 72.

In 1985, 13-year-old AIDS patient Ryan White began "attending" classes at Western Middle School in Kokomo, Indiana, via a telephone hook-up at his home -- school officials had barred Ryan from attending

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 057 ~ 39 of 39

classes in person.

In 2015, Alison Parker, a reporter for WDBJ-TV in Roanoke, Virginia, and her cameraman, Adam Ward, were shot to death during a live broadcast by a disgruntled former station employee who fatally shot himself while being pursued by police.

In 2017, Hurricane Harvey spun into Texas, unloading extraordinary amounts of rain. (The hurricane killed nearly 70 people, damaged more than 300,000 structures and caused an estimated \$125 billion in damage.) Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. beat UFC fighter Conor McGregor in a boxing match in Las Vegas that was stopped by the referee in the 10th round; it was the last fight of Mayweather's career and earned him an estimated \$200 million.

Ten years ago: Authorities in California solved the 18-year-old disappearance of Jaycee Lee Dugard after she appeared at a parole office with her children and the Antioch couple accused of kidnapping her when she was 11. A giant wildfire erupted north of Los Angeles; the blaze went on to destroy more than five dozen homes, kill two firefighters and force thousands of people from their homes. Death claimed crime story author Dominick Dunne, 83, in New York City and Ellie Greenwich, 68, who'd co-written songs like "Chapel of Love," "Be My Baby" and "Leader of the Pack," in New York City.

Five years ago: In a speech to the American Legion's national convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, President Barack Obama defended his administration's response to Veterans Affairs lapses that had delayed health care for thousands of former service members, but conceded more needed to be done to regain their trust. Burger King announced it would buy Canadian restaurant chain Tim Hortons in an \$11 billion deal to create the world's third largest fast-food chain.

One year ago: A gunman opened fire on fellow gamers at a video game tournament in Jacksonville, Fla., killing two men and wounding 10 others before taking his own life. More than 1,000 mourners gathered for the funeral of Mollie Tibbetts, the 20-year-old Iowa college student whose body had been found in a cornfield; a dairy worker suspected of being in the country illegally was charged in her death. Playwright Neil Simon, whose comedies included "The Odd Couple" and "Barefoot in the Park," died at the age of 91.

Today's Birthdays: Pop singer Vic Dana is 79. Former Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer Valerie Simpson is 74. Pop singer Bob Cowsill is 70. Broadcast journalist Bill Whitaker is 68. Actor Brett Cullen is 63. NBA coach Stan Van Gundy is 60. Jazz musician Branford Marsalis is 59. Country musician Jimmy Olander (Diamond Rio) is 58. Actor Chris Burke is 54. Actress-singer Shirley Manson (Garbage) is 53. Rock musician Dan Vickrey (Counting Crowes) is 53. TV writer-actress Riley Weston is 53. Rock musician Adrian Young (No Doubt) is 50. Actress Melissa McCarthy is 49. Latin pop singer Thalia is 48. Actress Meredith Eaton is 45. Rock singer-musician Tyler Connolly (Theory of a Deadman) is 44. Actor Mike Colter is 43. Actor Macaulay Culkin is 39. Actor Chris Pine is 39. Comedian/actor/writer John Mulaney is 37. Actor Johnny Ray Gill is 35. Country singer Brian Kelley (Florida Georgia Line) is 34. Rhythm-and-blues singer Cassie (AKA Cassie Ventura) is 33. Actor Evan Ross is 31. Actress Danielle Savre is 31. Actor Dylan O'Brien is 28. Actress Keke Palmer is 26.

Thought for Today: "While we read history we make history." — George William Curtis, American author-editor (1824-1892).

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